

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Kosovo
Program Title:	Democratic Institutions
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	167-0220
Status:	New in FY 2004
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$5,776,000 AEEB
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,538,000 AEEB
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$5,550,000 AEEB
Year of Initial Obligation:	2004
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2008

Summary: USAID's democratic institutions program will help support building strong autonomous governmental institutions by strengthening the capacity of representatives of the democratic institutions. USAID's democratization approach to date has focused on promoting transparency and accountability. This approach will expand to include the creation of a more representative and modernized electoral system, responsive political parties, a legislature that exercises effective oversight, a strong judiciary staffed by competent legal professionals, efficient court administration, and increased access to justice for all Kosovo residents. Strengthening these key institutions will help the Mission achieve its goal of helping Kosovo become more democratic, providing equal opportunities and rights for all citizens.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$4,976,000 AEEB, \$748,000 AEEB carryover). In 2005, USAID will continue to provide assistance to Kosovo institutions and Kosovo legal professionals in planning and implementing the transition and reform of the justice sector. USAID will assist the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK), legal professionals, and civil society in developing a legal framework that ensures judicial independence and protection from the political and executive interference in the judiciary, and in developing policies that support an effective and impartial justice system. Priority areas for reform include structural and functional reform in the justice system; strengthening the capacity of the court system to operate in a effective, transparent, and impartial manner by advancing management capacity of the court staff; designing and implementing new policies and procedures that will enhance transparency and efficiency; developing systems to provide effective oversight for judges, prosecutors, and lawyers through improvement of disciplinary and ethics systems; and increasing public awareness of Kosovo's evolving legal framework and justice system to improve access and ensure individual and community rights are protected through public awareness campaigns and provision of regular updated information to the general public. USAID will provide assistance to improve and increase the professionalism of lawyers, judges, and prosecutors as well as enhance the professional capability of the new entry legal staff. The importance and enormity of this issue, coupled with the slow progress to date, will make rule of law a major area of emphasis in 2005. Grantee: American Bar Association/Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) (prime); Contractor: National Center for State Courts (NCSC) (prime).

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$800,000 AEEB, \$790,000 AEEB carryover). The FY 2005 program is a continuation of a previous program designed so that program components complement one another and enhance coordination of the activities at the Kosovo-wide and municipal level. The program seeks to promote the democratization of political parties and the central and municipal assemblies by facilitating constructive interaction between representatives and their constituents. Following the October 2004 elections for the Kosovo Assembly, USAID will seek to consolidate progress in intra-party democratization, inter-party collaboration and civic engagement, and to marginalize extremist elements by further strengthening democratic institutions such as the Assembly and municipal councils. The main focus with the new Assembly will be the training of the newly elected Assembly members on constituent relations. This

component will be further advanced by opening of regional constituent offices in six towns of Kosovo, a practice new for both the Assembly and the citizens of Kosovo. Grantee: National Democratic Institute (NDI); Contractor/Grantee: TBD

FY 2006 Program: Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$3,600,000 AEEB). USAID will support and provide technical assistance in the reform of the law faculty by introducing new teaching methodologies and provide technical assistance in the reform of the curricula. USAID also will continue to support the improvement of court administration, strengthen the management capacity of the courts, assist in the implementation of the justice system reforms, ensure effective oversight for judges, prosecutors, and lawyers, and increase public awareness and understanding of the legal system. Contractor: NCSC (prime); Grantee: ABA/CEELI (prime).

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$1,950,000 AEEB). USAID will continue to provide technical assistance to the political parties and the Assembly. USAID will provide assistance to political parties to improve the parties' capacity to develop policies, further strengthen internal democratic structures, promote participation of women and youth, and effectively reach out to constituents. Direct assistance to the Assembly members will be provided to help the Assembly to effectively exercise executive oversight and follow-up on the implementation of the laws. Grantee: NDI (prime).

Performance and Results: To date, USAID has helped improve the capacity of political parties to conduct coherent and issue-based campaigns, and two of the major political parties established within their structure Centers for Political Studies responsible for researching and surveying public opinion on main economic and social issues. USAID assisted political parties to strengthen internal party practices, which resulted in a democratic election process of party candidates by the membership for the determination of the party's electoral list. With USAID support, a strong and credible capacity for election monitoring was created with the Council for the Defense of Human Rights and Freedom. The Kosovo Chamber of Advocates has emerged as a vibrant and active association of professionals involved in the legal reforms, playing a role in professional enhancement of its membership and developing a new Law on Advocacy. USAID has assisted UNMIK in coordination with other donors in planning the transition and the reform of the justice sector. The Audit Unit at the Department of Justice has been established and will be staffed and trained during FY 2005. USAID made significant contributions to improve the effectiveness of the court administration by enhancing skills of court support staff through targeted training for court archivists, court managers/administrators, and execution staff. Further administration of justice was enhanced as a result of USAID assistance in developing and implementing a number of automated systems such as fee and fine collection and budget management software.

By the end of the strategy period, it is expected that USAID assistance will have resulted in or contributed to increasing local capacity in Kosovo's democratic institutions. In 2004, Kosovo for the first time had primary responsibility for administering the Assembly elections, and had increased responsibility over the justice system. Political parties will be more internally democratic and elected representatives will be more responsive to their constituencies. The Assembly will be more effective at conducting its business, and the three branches of government will begin to perform checks and balances on each other.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Kosovo

167-0220 Democratic Institutions	AEEB
Through September 30, 2003	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2004	
Obligations	5,450
Expenditures	1,533
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	5,450
Expenditures	1,533
Unliquidated	3,917
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	1,538
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA	
Obligations	5,776
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	7,314
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	5,550
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	18,314